

Transfiguration of Our Lord



*March 2, 2025
10:00 am
St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus*



Are you new to St. Paul's?
Do you have a prayer concern?
Do you have a question for one of our
Pastoral Leaders?
Do you have a message for one of St. Paul's Staff?
Are you looking for more resources for
your spiritual life?
If your answer is yes to any of these questions, please
scan our QR code to share your needs with us.

*Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Transfiguration of Our Lord
March 2, 2025*

Musician: Paul Storfer

Brief order for Confession and Forgiveness

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.
- C Amen.
- P Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin. Merciful God,
- C you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.
- P God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In ☩ Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free.
- C Amen.

Opening Hymn: LBW 400

God, Whose Almighty Word



1 God, whose al - might - y word cha - os and dark - ness heard
2 Lord, who once came to bring, on your re - deem - ing wing,
3 Spir - it of truth and love, life - giv - ing, ho - ly dove,
4 Ho - ly and bless - ed three, glo - ri - ous Trin - i - ty,



and took their flight: hear us, we hum - bly pray, and where the
heal - ing and sight, health to the sick in mind, sight to the
speed forth your flight; move on the wa - ter's face bear - ing the
wis - dom, love, might! Bound - less as o - cean's tide, roll - ing in



gos - pel day sheds not its glo - rious ray,
in - ly blind: oh, now to hu - man - kind let there be light!
lamp of grace, and in earth's dark - est place
full - est pride, through the earth, far and wide,

Text: John Marriott, 1780–1825, alt.

Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796

Apostolic Greeting

P The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Holy God, mighty and immortal, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. Transform us into the likeness of your Son, who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Children's Time

First Reading: 2 Corinthians 3:12–4:2

In his debates with the Corinthians, Paul contrasts the glory of Moses with the glory of Christ. The Israelites could not see Moses' face because of the veil. But in Christ we see the unveiled glory of God and are transformed into Christ's likeness.

Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

A This is the Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 99 (read responsively)

Proclaim the greatness of the LORD; worship upon God's holy hill. (Ps. 99:9)

A The LORD is king; let the people tremble. The LORD is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake.

C The LORD, great in Zion, is high above all peoples.

- A Let them confess God's name, which is great and awesome; God is the Holy One.
- C O mighty king, lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.
- A Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and fall down before God's footstool; God is the Holy One.
- C Moses and Aaron among your priests, and Samuel among those who call upon your name, O LORD, they called upon you, and you answered them,
- A you spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; they kept your testimonies and the decree that you gave them.
- C O LORD our God, you answered them indeed; you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil deeds.
- A Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and worship upon God's holy hill; for the LORD our God is the Holy One.
- A This is the Word of the Lord
- C Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Celtic Alleluia



Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker

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P The Holy Gospel according to Luke the Ninth Chapter.
C Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 9:28-36 [37-43a]

The conversation about Jesus' suffering and death is enclosed in a dazzling foreshadowing of the resurrection. God affirms Jesus' identity, the disciples are stunned speechless, and Jesus resumes his mission with a demonstration of his power over evil.

Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"—not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

[On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. Just then a man from the crowd shouted, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It convulses him until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." Jesus answered, "You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here." While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. And all were astounded at the greatness of God.]

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

How Good, Lord, to Be Here!



- 1 How good, Lord, to be here! Your glo - ry fills the night;
- 2 How good, Lord, to be here, your beau - ty to be - hold
- 3 Ful - fill - er of the past and hope of things to be,
- 4 Be - fore we taste of death, we see your king - dom come;
- 5 How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not re - main;



your face and gar - ments, like the sun, shine with un - bor - rowed light.
where Mo - ses and E - li - jah stand, your mes - sen - gers of old.
we hail your bod - y glo - ri - fied and our re - demp - tion see.
we long to hold the vi - sion bright and make this hill our home.
but since you bid us leave the mount, come with us to the plain.

Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858–1933, alt.

Music: POTSDAM, W. Mercer, *The Church Psalter and Hymn Book*, 1854

Apostle's Creed

A Let's join to proclaim our faith using the Apostles' Creed:

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

Prayer's of the Church

A With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation. (Please kneel or sit as you are able.)

Transfiguring God, through the glory of your presence, you transform us. Move the church from complacency to boldness in sharing the good news with others. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A We pray for your creation. As seasons change, give patience and skill to all who tend to animals giving birth. Grant nourishing weather for the growing of crops. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A We pray for all in leadership, especially for those who lead states, counties, and town councils. Give them wisdom to protect local resources so that all will flourish both now and in the years to come. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Bring your healing grace to those who feel distant from you. Speak comfort to those who need your words of mercy. We pray for those close to our communities and in our hearts. We pray especially for the people on our Prayer Lists and Prayer Chain, and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A God of our past, present, and future, lead us into new beginnings, trusting in the promise of new life in Christ. Accompany congregations needing to close, and give courage to congregations starting new ministries. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Renewing God, the saints who have gone before us witnessed to the ways you transform your church and people. We give thanks for their example and pray we carry it forward. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

C Amen.

Offering Music and Prayer

Ways to Give to St. Paul's:

Options you can use to continue tithing to St. Paul's:

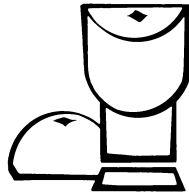
- **In-Person Worship:** Continue to put your envelopes and cash in the plate
- **Giving by Mail:** Please mail your donations payable to St. Paul's, 4007 Main Street, Eggertsville, NY 14226
- **Online:** The St. Paul's website contains a link to Online Giving. The website is: <https://stpaulseggertsville.com/online-giving/>

QR Code:



P Let us pray.

C God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer here and in our planned giving to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.



Dialogue and Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give God thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right and proper that we should at all times and in all places, offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and sing their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

P In the night in which he was handed over, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Lord's Prayer

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

C Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

Holy Communion at St. Paul's: celebrated every time we gather, and is open to all. Please approach by the center aisle, receive the bread and the wine, and return to your seat via the side aisle. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available. Simply request it from the Assisting Minister holding the wine. Children are welcome! Those who receive elsewhere may receive here. Children who do not yet receive may come for a blessing. If you have difficulty walking, communion will be brought to you at your seat.

Communion Blessing

P The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen us and keep us in his grace.

C Amen.

Prayer After Communion

P Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray,

C Amen.

Benediction

P And now as you go on your way, may our Lord Jesus go with you. May he go before you to show you the way, behind you to encourage you, beside you to be your friend, above you to watch over you, and within you to give you peace. Go today celebrating in the name of the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, and all God's children said...

C Amen

Closing Hymn: WOV 654 (on the following page)

Sharing the Peace and Sending

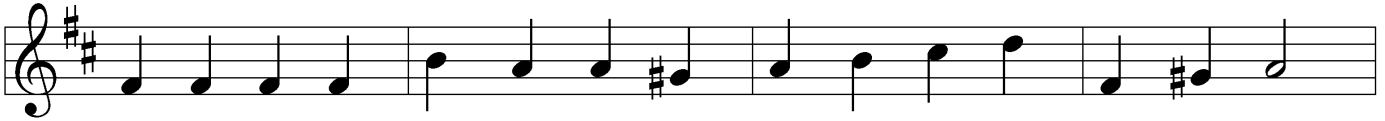
P Go in peace to serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God.

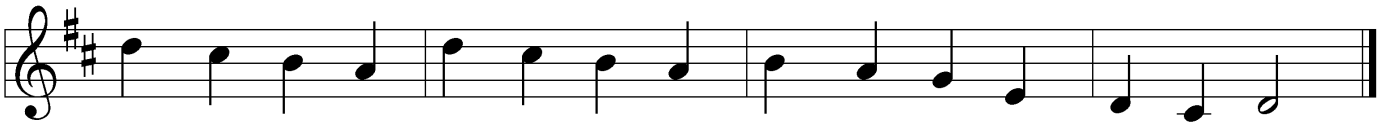
Alleluia, Song of Gladness



- 1 Al - le - lu - ia, song of glad - ness, voice of joy that can-not die;
- 2 Al - le - lu - ia! Lead our prais - es, true Je - ru - sa - lem and free;
- 3 Al - le - lu - ia can - not al - ways be our song while here be - low;
- 4 In our hymns we pray with long - ing: Grant us, bless-ed Trin - i - ty,



al - le - lu - ia is the an - them ev - er dear to choirs on high;
al - le - lu - ia, joy - ful moth-er, bring us to your ju - bi - lee;
al - le - lu - ia our trans-gres-sions make us for a while for - go;
at the last to keep glad Eas - ter with the faith-ful saints on high;



in the house of God a - bid - ing thus they sing e - ter - nal - ly.
but by Bab - y - lon's sad wa - ters mourn-ing ex - iles now are we.
for the sol-emn time is com-ing when our tears for sin shall flow.
there to you for - ev - er sing-ing al - le - lu - ia joy - ful - ly.

Text: Latin hymn 11th cent.; tr. John M. Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
Music: PRAISE, MY SOUL, John Goss, 1800–1880

ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: March 2-9, 2025

* Unless otherwise noted, all activities will take place at the Eggertsville Campus *

- Sunday:** 9:00-9:45 am: Adult Forum
9:30 am-1:30 pm: Western New York Church at AC
10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: Worship, Communion, and Sunday School
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope at AC
- Monday:** 4:15 pm: Daily Bread Food Truck Meal Share
5:30-9:30 pm: Straight Pepper Diet Meeting at AC
- Tuesday:** 10:00 am: Bible Study
5:00-6:30 pm: Recovery on Main (NA)
6:00-9:00 pm: Eggertsville Now Meeting
7:00-9:00 pm: Lutheran Chorale Rehearsal
- Wednesday: Ash Wednesday**
12:00 pm: Ash Wednesday Service
1:00 pm: Pinochle Group
6:30-8:30 pm: Ray of Hope Prayer Group
7:00 pm: Ash Wednesday Service
7:30 pm: Choir Rehearsal following Ash Wednesday Service
8:00 pm: AA Meeting
- Thursday:** No Events Planned
- Friday:** 7:00-8:30 pm: Traveling and Trudging
- Saturday:** 9:00 am-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church at AC
9:00 am-12:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open
5:00 pm: Worship and Communion at AC
- Sunday:** 9:00-9:45 am: Adult Forum
9:30 am-1:30 pm: Western New York Church at AC
10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: Worship, Communion, and Sunday School followed by Lenten Kick-Off Potluck
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope at AC

Altar Flowers: In loving memory of my wife, Marilyn. I miss her every day, Ira (Mother of Debbie and Don and Michelle)

Deacons: 3/2: Martin Troutman; 3/9: Nancy Bartels-Holiman

Ushers: 3/2: Todd Vahue & Richard Riddoch; 3/9: Ben Brown & Jeff Mols

Prayer List: In our congregational and extended family: Dawn Matuszak; Cindy Milazzo-Schwartz; Bob O'Brian (Mark O'Brian's brother); Diane Millace; Aaron Torres (friend of Sandy Hoehn); Charles Herschlag; Kathy Greenawalt; Gloria Chaves (Betty Aprile's sister); Jim and Sue Gustafson; Sue Epstein; Rosemond Johnson

Prayer List: Shut-Ins (* indicates new names or changes added this week)

Ruth Blank: Scofield Residence, 3333 Elmwood Avenue, #121, Buffalo, NY 14217

Neal DeLeo: Greenfield Manor, #D110, 5958 Broadway, Lancaster, NY 14086

John Hornung: Brothers of Mercy, 10570 Bergtold Road, Clarence, NY 14031

Jan Isaacs: 6 Bush Gardens, Three Rod Road, Alden, NY 14004

Dave Lampe: 829 N Hurff Drive, Elmwood, IL 61529

Elaine Masman: Heathwood Assisted Living, 815 Hopkins, Room 251, Williamsville, NY 14221

Dorothy Menth: Elderwood at Basset Park, 245 Bassett Road, #54, Williamsville, NY 14221

Wilma Nantka: Fredonia Place, 201 Reist Street, #238, Williamsville, NY 14221

David Wolf: Solstice, 6363 Transit Road, #244, East Amherst, NY 14051

PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS

In-Person Worship: St. Paul's has two in-person worship services: Saturday evening at 5:00 pm at the Amherst Campus, 5125 Main Street, Williamsville, 14221, and Sunday morning at 10:00 am at the Eggertsville Campus, 4007 Main Street, Eggertsville, 14226. The Sunday 10:00 am worship service is also livestreamed on St. Paul's YouTube page.

Church Unleashed: If you cannot join us for in-person worship, please continue to worship with us as Church Unleashed on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am on WBBZ, YouTube, or Facebook.

Prayer Team Ministry: Once a week you will receive an email with a list of people to pray for and specific requests for that person. We ask that you commit to praying for the names on the email. If you'd like to join us, please contact Cody at: Cody@stpaulseggertsville.com

Nursery/Nursing Mom's Room: Located downstairs by the Sunday School room. There is a wall TV for streaming the Sunday worship service. Babies 0-24 months are welcome in the nursery and must be monitored by their parent.

Daily Bread Food Truck: The 2024 Monday Meal Share is underway each Monday from 4:15-5:15 pm. If you are interested in volunteering or donating, contact the office at 716-835-0407 or dailybread4007@gmail.com.

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tigers Den Food Pantry: The Food Pantry is open to anyone in need in zip code 14226, is associated with St. Paul's Amherst Campus, or by referral. The hours for March are: Saturdays 3/8 and 3/22 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm, and Thursdays 3/13 and 3/27 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm. Donations for March: cereal and pasta.



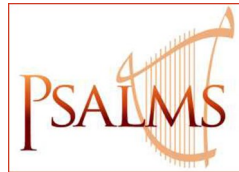
Ash Wednesday, March 5: Services will be held at the Eggertsville Campus at noon and 7:00 pm



***Sunday, March 9: Lent Kick-Off Potluck following 10:00 am worship service.
Bring a dish to share. Sign-up sheet in Gathering Area***



***Wednesday, March 12-April 9: 12:00 pm: Soup and Psalms.
Sign-up in the Gathering Area if you are interested in attending,
and let us know if you can bring a soup to share***



Come join St. Paul's Youth Group for their Annual Spaghetti Dinner and Basket Raffle.

SATURDAY, MARCH 22 from 4:00-7:00 pm

***Dinner includes: unlimited salad, breadsticks, pasta and meatballs with
homemade sauce, and dessert***

A Free Will Offering will benefit Youth Group events

Can you donate a dessert or a gift basket for the raffle?

If you can help us, please contact Jordan Dywan at jordandywan@gmail.com



+ St. Paul's Mission +

*To empower others with the Good News of Jesus Christ.
We do that by: Seeking Connections, Enriching Faith, Nourishing Lives,
and Demonstrating Love in God's Name.*

St. Paul's Congregation Council

President: Robert Simpson

Vice-President: Tim Johnson

Treasurer: William Niblock

Secretary: Scott Vahue

Bob Brown David Dahlberg Susan Epstein

Sara Hannon Janet Schmidt Vanessa Solomon Barbara Walter

Pastoral Leaders

Steve Biegner (716-868-1232 - cell); Email: steve@stpaulseggertsville.com

Kristen Arends: (716-481-8728 - cell); Email: kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com

Directors of Music: *Paul H. Storfer (SPEC) and Adam Schmidt (AC)*

Christian Education Coordinator: *June Piette*

Youth Ministry: *Jordan Dywan*

Digital Ministry: *Andrew Gruszka*

Facilities Manager: *Jeff Stein*

Church Office Staff

Cody Almeter and Adrienne Leary

E-mail: office@stpaulseggertsville.com

Telephone: (716) 835-0407

Website: www.stpaulseggertsville.com

*St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus
4007 Main Street
Eggertsville, NY 14226*

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5125 Main Street
Williamsville, NY 14221*